

**ATLAS AND MANUAL OF DERMATOLOGY AND VENEREOLOGY**—Professor Dr. W. Burckhardt, Director of the Municipal Polyclinic for Skin and Venereal Diseases, Zurich, Switzerland. Translated and Edited by Stephan Epstein, M.D., Marshfield Clinic, Marshfield, Wisconsin; Clinical Associate Professor of Dermatology, University of Minnesota School of Medicine, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Williams & Wilkins Company, Baltimore 2, Maryland, 1959. 276 pages, \$14.00.

As stated in the Preface to the American edition, Professor Burckhardt's Atlas and Manual of Dermatology and Venereology is a book intended for practitioners in non-dermatologic specialties and for medical students. For this reason only the more common dermatoses are discussed. The coupling of the verbal and pictorial descriptions is oriented toward diagnosis. Controversial material is avoided and current therapy is emphasized.

A brief summary of cutaneous anatomy is presented first, followed by definitions and diagrams of the primary and secondary skin lesions. Then follow chapters covering the various types of dermatoses such as infectious diseases, inflammatory diseases of unknown etiology, allergic dermatoses, metabolic disturbances of the skin and numerous other categories, through the precancerous lesions, malignant lesions and venereal diseases. The common conditions in each group are illustrated and discussed. The text is succinctly but interestingly written. The concepts presented of pathogenesis and treatment are up-to-date, but the discussion is necessarily abbreviated. However, the material presented is wisely selected to fulfill the requirements of the intended readers.

Of special interest to any physician perusing this book are the especially well reproduced and strikingly beautiful color photographs of most of the conditions discussed. It is unusual to find so many such illustrations in a book of this size and price. A number of good quality black and white photographs are also included. An extensive list of current dermatologic texts and monographs is appended following the last chapter.

This pleasing volume represents a successful attempt to combine outstanding color and black-and-white clinical photographs of many common dermatologic conditions with a concise, modern text. It should be of interest and value to any physician concerned with diagnosis of skin disease.

DONALD H. PAULSON, M.D.

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**CLINICAL PROSTHETICS FOR PHYSICIANS AND THERAPISTS—A Handbook of Clinical Practices Related to Artificial Limbs**—Written by Miles H. Anderson, Ed.D., Director, Prosthetics Education Project, School of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles; Charles O. Bechtol, M.D., Professor of Surgery (Orthopedics), Department of Surgery, School of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles; and Raymond E. Sollars, Associate Director, Prosthetics Education Project, School of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles. Charles C. Thomas, Publisher, 301-327 East Lawrence Avenue, Springfield, Illinois, 1959. 393 pages, \$10.50.

This excellent book contains detailed information concerning artificial limbs for major amputations of the upper extremities and above knee amputations of the lower extremities. Emphasis is on conventional harness and controls, although biceps cineplasty is adequately discussed.

The care and conditioning of the amputation stump from the time of surgery until limb fitting is clearly explained with welcome stress on the importance of proper daily bandaging technique to "shrink and shape" the stump. Diagrams indicate how the bandages are applied.

The training of the amputee in the proficient use of his prosthesis is considered in great detail. Special techniques used in dressing, eating, etc., are included, as well as check

lists in prosthetic use, tests of proficiency, and specific items of equipment for use in training and testing. Problems of different age groups, work requirements, and individual complications such as phantom pain and stump dermatitis are covered.

The text is presented in outline form with pertinent illustrations. There is considerable technical information, but reading interest is maintained by occasional highlights such as the twenty-six page section on "Locomotion" which represents the essence of many years research on artificial limbs.

This book will be of great assistance to the therapists and physicians who are responsible for the care and rehabilitation of the limbless.

The casual reader who rarely sees an amputee will be impressed by the considerable time and effort necessary to attain proficiency in the use of the prosthesis. He will understand the advantages of the "team" approach and become acquainted with the problems of the amputee, prosthetist, therapist, and physician in their mutual goal of rehabilitation.

CALVIN K. TERWILLIGER, M.D.

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**FOURTH TISSUE HOMOTRANSPLANTATION CONFERENCE**—Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences, Volume 87, Art. 1; Pages 1-607. Published by the New York Academy of Sciences, 2 East Sixty-third Street, New York 21, New York, 1960. 607 pages, \$5.00.

In his introductory remarks to this collection of 49 papers on related problems of homotransplantation, Converse quotes the remark of Woodruff in 1957 that for the surgeon, at least, the successful solution to the immunological problems of whole organ transplants, bids fair to open a new and exciting field, and a new meaning will be found for the motto, "No man is born for himself alone." The technical aspects of whole organ transplants which were first described the early part of the century may be considered the simplest part of the problem and may be well on the way to solution. Experimentally successful transplants with function have been described for the heart (14 days), heart and lungs (5 days), kidney (31 days), liver (8 hours). The splendid work of the Brigham group on kidney transplants in twins, of course, from the immunological point of view, is autografting, but the technical lessons learned are invaluable.

Research in the basic field has followed three main lines: (1) A search for actual mechanisms of homograft rejection; (2) a study of altered reactivity patterns; (3) a phylogenetic search for homograft rejection patterns in lower animal species. The papers in this volume encompass all these headings and mark the emergence of tissue homotransplantation research as a specialized discipline which Converse and Rappaport suggest should be called transplantation biology.

The difficulties which the interested clinician will encounter in the new field are well pointed up in the last paper of the volume on "Transplantese" by Gorer. The jargon of the researchers in the field will not be understandable without considerable study.

Although earlier research suggested that homografts must fail because of the immunological response of nuclear material between host and graft, there is slowly emerging a body of evidence to suggest that this reaction can be modified. Sufficient modification so that a practical means of tolerance of a graft can be developed is still far away but the glimmer of hope exists.

This volume is of value as a reference for workers in the field.

ROY COHN, M.D.